

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gont et al.

Appl. No. To be assigned

Filed: To be assigned

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Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0811.1220000



Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- □ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
 - □ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
 - □ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

	□ c.	Attached is our Check No.	in the amount of \$	in payment
		of the fee under 37 C.I	F.R. § 1.17(p).	
□ 3.	This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after			
		the U.S. filing date and after th	ne mailing date of a Final Rejec	tion or Notice
	of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. En			and our Check
		No in the amount	of \$ in payment of the	e fee under 37
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		Disclosure Statement	was cited in a communication	from a foreign
		patent office in a count	erpart foreign application not m	nore than three
		months prior to the fili	ng of this Information Disclos	are Statement.
	37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).			
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		Statement was cited in	a communication from a foreig	n patent office
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		making reasonable inq	uiry, was known to any individ	ual designated
		in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)	more than three months prior t	to the filing of
		this Information Discle	osure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1	.97(e)(2).
□ 4.	The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a			
		counterpart foreign application	a. Submission of an English lan	iguage version
		of the search report that indi	cates the degree of relevance	found by the
		foreign office is provided in	satisfaction of the requirement	t for a concise
	explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.			
□ 5.	A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s)			
		appears below:		
□ 6.	Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that			
		complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98	8(a)-(c) in Application No	, filed
		, which is relied up	oon for an earlier filing date un	der 35 U.S.C.
		§ 120. Thus, copies of the	se documents are not attache	d. 37 C.F.R.
		§ 1.98(d).		

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jeff Holvey

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Date: 8/3/01

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